

Members

Rep. John Gregg, Chairman
Sen. Robert Garton, Vice-Chairman
Sen. Richard Young
Sen. Harold Wheeler
Sen. Joseph Harrison
Sen. Patricia Miller
Sen. Thomas Wyss
Sen. James Lewis
Sen. Earline Rogers
Rep. Mark Kruzan
Rep. Dale Grubb
Rep. William Cochran
Rep. Charlie Brown
Rep. Richard Mangus
Rep. Kathy Richardson
Rep. Brian Bosma



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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Authority: IC 2-5-1.1

MEETING MINUTES¹

Meeting Date: July 24, 2002
Meeting Time: 11:00 A.M.
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington
St., Room 404
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana
Meeting Number: 1

Members Present: Rep. John Gregg, Chairman; Sen. Robert Garton, Vice-Chairman; Sen. Richard Young; Sen. Harold Wheeler; Sen. Joseph Harrison; Sen. Patricia Miller; Sen. Thomas Wyss; Sen. James Lewis; Sen. Earline Rogers; Rep. Dale Grubb; Rep. Charlie Brown; Rep. Richard Mangus; Rep. Kathy Richardson; Rep. Brian Bosma.

Members Absent: Rep. Mark Kruzan; Rep. William Cochran.

Chairman Gregg opened the meeting at 11:15 am. He introduced the members of the Legislative Council and its staff. The first item of business concerned the establishment of

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interim study committee assignments. Mr. Sachtleben, Executive Director of the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) described the contents of proposed Legislative Council Resolution 02-01. That resolution would create four interim committees (Education, Marriage and Family, Lien Recovery, and Labor, State and Human Affairs) and refer 25 study topics to existing statutory committees or commissions.

Rep. Charlie Brown noted that the Commission on Excellence in Health Care could be overburdened by the addition of three new study topics to its statutory responsibilities. The Chairman noted that each study committee chairman has the authority to determine the work plan and priorities of his or her committee.

Rep. Grubb discussed a problem involving railroad rights of way. He proposed adding this topic to the charge for the Natural Resources Study Committee. He also suggested that the NRSC be given subpoena power. Vice-Chairman Garton recommended that the Council not give subpoena power to any study committee. Rather, each committee would be urged to follow the statutory procedure for requesting a subpoena through the Legislative Council. Sen. Wyss suggested getting the Attorney General involved. Chairman Gregg suggested that Sen. Wyss, Sen. Lewis, Rep. Grubb, and Rep. Mangus work on a letter to the Attorney General in addition to assigning this study topic to the NRSC. The Council consented to this approach.

Rep. Brown then discussed the absence of Lake and Porter County from the vehicle emission testing topic assigned to the Environmental Quality Service Council. Sen. Lewis noted that his specific interest was in looking at a vehicle emission program at work in Louisville that might work in Floyd and Clark Counties. The Chairman suggested, and the Council consented, that emission testing programs in Lake and Porter Counties to the EQSC as a separate topic from the Floyd/Clark topic.

The Council then discussed the topics for study suggested in SB 227 and SB 229 from the 2002 session concerning reorganization of the FSSA and a separate study of the organization of the Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning.

Vice-Chairman Garton then asked that the charge to the Labor, State and Human Affairs specify that the committee study only the Native American topics listed in Senate Resolution 7. In addition, the Council discussed that this and the French Lick/ West Baden charges are not to include any gaming related studies. The Council consented to a change in the charge and requested that this matter be specifically noted in the minutes.

At Rep. Grubb's suggestion, the Council agreed to add a topic concerning delays in the initial payment of public pensions to the Pension Management Oversight Commission.

Rep. Bosma then moved, with a second from Rep. Grubb, that LCR 02-01 be adopted. The favorable vote was unanimous.

Mr. Sachtleben then explained the contents of LCR 02-02, concerning the rules that would govern the operation of the study committees this interim. On Sen. Lewis's motion, the Resolution was adopted unanimously.

The Chairman then announced that the Subcommittees of the Legislative Council

would have the same members as last year, with the Chairmanships also shifting from the Senate to the House.

The next item on the agenda concerned the termination of the Correction Matters Evaluation Committee. Mr. Sachtleben explained that both chairman of the committee concurred that the work of the Committee was finished. The Council unanimously adopted LCR 02-03.

The Council then discussed proposed LCR 02-04 concerning the permanent broadcast of House and Senate sessions on the Internet. Mr. Sachtleben noted that this service costs about \$1500 per month. Rep. Grubb mentioned his concern that this program could be abused by someone taking short broadcast clips and using in a political campaign. Rep. Bosma stated that he thought the program should be expanded to include Ways and Means and Finance Committee meetings. The Resolution was approved unanimously.

The next item concerned proposed LCR 02-05 which would give the State Chamber of Commerce permission to link the House and Senate Internet broadcasts to their website. Ms. Sarah Budd explained that the Chamber was requesting this for the convenience of its members. Rep. Bosma then asked whether non-members would be able to use the site. Ms. Budd said that they would not unless the link was placed on the "front" page of the Chamber website. After continued discussion, the Chairman postponed further consideration until the next meeting of the Council. The revised Resolution will specify that persons who are not Chamber members must be able to use the link without cost.

The next item considered was LCR 02-07 which would authorize the payment of annual dues to the National Conference of State Legislatures and the Council of State Governments. After a brief discussion concerning the usefulness of these organizations to the House, Senate and LSA staff, and to the ideas generated for legislators at conferences and other meetings, the Resolution was adopted by consent.

The final item considered was the LSA budget request for the next biennium. Mr. Sachtleben noted that this request, if adopted, would result in a reduction in total appropriations to the LSA. This had been accomplished, he noted, by extending the in-house printing operations to include the Indiana Code and its Supplement, the Indiana Register, the Acts of Indiana, and the Indiana Administrative Code. Most of the savings will be realized by distributing CD copies of these documents instead of paper copies. The proposal also gathers all of the LSA printing line items into one line item. The Resolution was adopted by consent.

The final regular item on the agenda was a presentation for information purposes concerning the long term recodification program of the LSA and the Code Revision Commission. Mr. Sachtleben distributed a copy of the 30 year history of recodifications by the General Assembly. To date, 14 titles of the Indiana Code have been recodified. Title 10 is being worked on this summer for presentation to the 2003 General Assembly.

As other business, Rep. Brown requested that the State Fire Marshal be asked to testify at the next Council meeting concerning our present fireworks laws and regulations.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm.